

## Dan language

**Dan** /'dæn/<sup>[3]</sup> is a Mande language spoken primarily in Ivory Coast (~800,000 speakers) and Liberia (150,000–200,000 speakers). There is also a population of about 800 speakers in Guinea. Dan is a tonal language, with three main tones and two glide/contour tones.

Alternative names for the language include Yacouba or Yakubasa, Gio, Gyo, Gio-Dan, and Da. Dialects are Gweetaawu (Eastern Dan), Blowo (Western Dan), and Kla. Kla is evidently a distinct language.

Dan	
<span></span> <div>Yacouba</div>	
Region	Ivory Coast, Guinea, and Liberia.
Native speakers	1.6 million <span> </span> (2012) <sup>[1]</sup>
Language family	<div>Niger–Congo <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> Mande<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Eastern Mande<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Southeastern<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mano–Dan<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Guro–Dan<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Tura–Dan<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Dan</b></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></div>
Writing system	Latin
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	Either: <div> <div>dnj – Dan</div> <div>1da – Kla</div> </div>
Glottolog	dann1241 ( <a href="http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/dann1241">http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/dann1241</a> ) <sup>[2]</sup>

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## Phonology

## Vowels

	<u>Front</u>	<u>Central</u>	<u>Back</u>
<u>Close</u>	i	ɯ	u
<u>Close-mid</u>	e	ɤ	o
<u>Open-mid</u>	ɛ	ʌ	ɔ
<u>Near-open</u>	æ		
<u>Open</u>	a		ɑ

## Writing system

The orthography of Liberia includes this alphabet:

Dan alphabet (Liberia)																																			
A	B	<u>B</u>	D	<u>D</u>	E	<u>E</u>	F	G	<u>GB</u>	H	I	K	<u>KP</u>	<u>KW</u>	L	M	N	<u>NW</u>	<u>NY</u>	<u>Ŋ</u>	O	<u>Ɔ</u>	<u>ə</u>	<u>ə</u>	P	R	S	T	U	<u>ɥ</u>	V	W	X	Y	Z
a	b	<u>b</u>	d	<u>d</u>	e	<u>ɛ</u>	f	g	gb	h	i	k	kp	kw	l	m	n	nw	ny	ŋ	o	<u>ɔ</u>	<u>ə</u>	<u>ə</u>	p	r	s	t	u	<u>ɥ</u>	v	w	x	y	z
IPA value																																			
<u>a</u>	<u>b</u>	<u>b</u>	<u>d</u>	<u>d</u>	<u>e</u>	<u>ɛ</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>g</u>	<u>gb</u>	<u>h</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>k</u>	<u>kp</u>	<u>kw</u>	<u>l</u>	<u>m</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>nw</u>	<u>ny</u>	<u>ŋ</u>	<u>o</u>	<u>ɔ</u>	<u>ə</u>	<u>ə</u>	<u>p</u>	<u>r</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>t</u>	<u>u</u>	<u>ɥ</u>	<u>v</u>	<u>w</u>	<u>x</u>	j	z

[4][5]

Dan West alphabet (Côte d'Ivoire)																																		
A	AO	B	BH	D	DH	E	É	Ě	EA	F	G	GB	GW	I	K	KP	KW	L	M	N	NG	O	ɔ	Ö	P	R	S	T	U	Ü	V	W	Y	Z
a	ao	b	bh	d	dh	e	é	ě	ea	f	g	gb	gw	i	k	kp	kw	l	m	n	ng	o	ɔ	ö	p	r	s	t	u	ü	v	w	y	z
IPA value																																		
<u>a</u>	<u>ɒ</u>	<u>b</u>	<u>ɓ</u>	<u>d</u>	<u>ɗ</u>	<u>e</u>	<u>ɛ</u>	<u>ɛ̃</u>	<u>æ</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>ɡ</u>	<u>ɡb</u>	<u>ɡw</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>k</u>	<u>kp</u>	<u>kʷ</u>	<u>l</u>	<u>m</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>ŋ</u>	<u>o</u>	<u>ɔ</u>	<u>ɔ̃</u>	<u>p</u>	<u>r</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>t</u>	<u>u</u>	<u>ʊ</u>	<u>v</u>	<u>w</u>	<u>j</u>	<u>z</u>

Dan East alphabet (Côte d'Ivoire), 1982																																				
A	Ɔ	B	<u>BH</u>	D	<u>DH</u>	E	<u>Ě</u>	Ɛ	ɛA	F	G	<u>GB</u>	<u>GW</u>	H	I	<u>ɿ</u>	K	<u>KP</u>	<u>KW</u>	L	M	N	O	<u>Ö</u>	ɔ	P	R	S	T	U	<u>Ü</u>	<u>U</u>	Û	V	W	Y
a	ɔ	b	bh	d	dh	e	ě	ɛ	ɛa	f	g	gb	gw	h	i	ɿ	k	kp	kw	l	m	n	o	ö	ɔ	p	r	s	t	u	ü	u	ü	v	w	y
IPA value																																				
<u>a</u>	<u>p</u>	<u>b</u>	<u>ɓ</u>	<u>d</u>	<u>ɗ</u>	<u>e</u>	<u>ʌ</u>	<u>ɛ</u>	<u>æ</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>g</u>	<u>ɡb</u>	<u>ɡʷ</u>	<u>h</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>ɪ</u>	<u>k</u>	<u>kp</u>	<u>kʷ</u>	<u>l</u>	<u>m</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>o</u>	<u>ɔ</u>	<u>p</u>	<u>r</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>t</u>	<u>u</u>	<u>ʍ</u>	<u>ɰ</u>	<u>ɥ</u>	<u>v</u>	<u>w</u>	<u>j</u>	

Dan East alphabet (Côte d'Ivoire), 2014																																				
A	<u>Æ</u>	B	<u>BH</u>	D	<u>DH</u>	E	<u>Λ</u>	<u>ε</u>	<u>Æ</u>	F	G	<u>GB</u>	<u>GW</u>	H	I	<u>ɿ</u>	K	<u>KP</u>	<u>KW</u>	L	M	N	O	<u>ʏ</u>	<u>ɔ̃</u>	P	R	S	T	U	<u>ʍ</u>	<u>ʊ</u>	V	W	Y	Z
a	æ	b	bh	d	dh	e	λ	ε	æ	f	g	gb	gw	h	i	ɿ	k	kp	kw	l	m	n	o	ʏ	ɔ̃	p	r	s	t	u	ʍ	ʊ	v	w	y	z
IPA value																																				
<u>a</u>	<u>p</u>	<u>b</u>	<u>ɓ</u>	<u>d</u>	<u>ɗ</u>	<u>e</u>	<u>λ</u>	<u>ε</u>	<u>æ</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>ɡ</u>	<u>ɡb</u>	<u>ɡw</u>	<u>h</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>ɪ</u>	<u>k</u>	<u>(k)</u>	<u>kʷ</u>	<u>l</u>	<u>m</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>o</u>	<u>ʏ</u>	<u>ɔ̃</u>	<u>p</u>	<u>r</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>t</u>	<u>u</u>	<u>ʍ</u>	<u>ʊ</u>	<u>v</u>	<u>w</u>	<u>j</u>	<u>z</u>

The capital **Ÿ** is not in Unicode.<sup>[6]</sup>

Tones are marked with grave, acute, and circumflex accents. Nasalization is marked with a tilde.

## References

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1. Dan (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/dnj/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)  
Kla (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/lda/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Dan" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/dann1241>). *Glottolog* **3.0**. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Laurie Bauer, 2007, *The Linguistics Student's Handbook*, Edinburgh
4. [https://scriptsource.org/cms/scripts/page.php?item\\_id=wrSys\\_detail\\_sym&key=dnj-Latn-CI](https://scriptsource.org/cms/scripts/page.php?item_id=wrSys_detail_sym&key=dnj-Latn-CI) ([https://scriptsource.org/cms/scripts/page.php?item\\_id=wrSys\\_detail\\_sym&key=dnj-Latn-CI](https://scriptsource.org/cms/scripts/page.php?item_id=wrSys_detail_sym&key=dnj-Latn-CI)). Missing or empty |title= (help)
5. "Proposal to Encode Additional Latin and Cyrillic Characters" (<http://std.dkuug.dk/jtc1/SC2/WG2/docs/n3481.pdf>) (PDF).
6. "SIL PUA assignments 11.0" ([https://scripts.sil.org/cms/scripts/page.php?item\\_id=SILPUAassignments](https://scripts.sil.org/cms/scripts/page.php?item_id=SILPUAassignments)).

## External links

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- [English-Dan Online Dictionary \(https://glosbe.com/en/dnj/\)](https://glosbe.com/en/dnj/)

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